

1861.

June 5<sup>th</sup>.

In response to an order of the Senate, the Governor transmitted to that Body the following message:

State of Maryland  
Executive Chamber,  
Frederick city, June 5, 1861.

Gentlemen of the Senate:

In response to your order of this date, asking me "to furnish the Senate, at my earliest convenience, with a statement of the facts which induced me to reclaim the Arms formerly confided to certain Military companies of Baltimore city, also, with the reasons why said Arms were sent, by my order, to Fort Mifflin, and, also, what security I have for the restoration of said Arms when demanded by the proper authorities of Maryland," I have to say:

That, although I cannot acknowledge any right on the part of the Senate to make such inquiries, yet it gives me great pleasure to respond to them, inasmuch as I desire the people of the State to be acquainted with the motives of all my official actions, and had, therefore, determined to give the public the reasons for my action in the premises.

I issued orders for reclaiming the Arms referred to because I had become satisfied that many of them had been carried beyond the limits of the State of Maryland for disloyal purposes; whereby our citizens, the loyal as well as the disloyal, have become obnoxious to the charge of aiding and abetting those persons who are now in rebellion against the United States Government; and whereby, also, the State, in addition to a pecuniary loss, has been deprived of the protection designed to her citizens by the purchase of said